REMARKS

Claims 1-29, 31, 50 - 64, 74 and 75 are pending in this application. The requirement of a protective layer that contains sulfur in claim 50 is supported, for example, at pages 6 - 8 of the specification and original claim 27. Favorable consideration is requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of-record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371.5237.

Respectfully submitted,

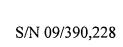
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Dated: December 2, 2002

Douglas P. Mueller Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:CAJ/jh

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

UNO et al.

Examiner:

M. ANGEBRANNDT

Serial No.:

09,390,228

Group Art Unit:

1756

Filed:

SEPTEMBER 3, 1999

Docket No.:

10873.274USI1

Title:

OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM PRODUCING

METHOD THEREOF AND METHOD OF

RECORDING/ERASING/REPRODUCING INFORMATION

MARKED-UP VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

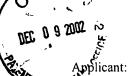
50. (Three Times Amended) An optical information recording medium comprising a substrate and a multilayer film, the multilayer film comprising a phase-change recording layer having reversibly changeable optical characteristics and a Ge-containing layer comprising one selected from the group consisting of GeXN and GeXON as a main component, and a protective layer comprising sulfur, wherein the Ge-containing layer is formed between the phase-change recording layer and the protective layer, and

wherein X is at least one element selected from the group consisting of elements belonging to Groups IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa, VIII, Ib and IIb, and carbon.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK

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OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM PRODUCING METHOD THEREOF

AND METHOD OF RECORDING/ERASING/REPRODUCING INFORMATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Supplemental Preliminary Amendment Including Marked-Up Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

Name: Douglas P. Mueller

Reg. No.: 30,300 DMueller/CAJ/tt

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